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Supporting SB 63

Testimony to the labor committee:

Paid sick days because is an issue that constantly affects my family and thousands of families in Connecticut.

I do not have paid sick days, and I have not been able to earn them even though I have been employed as a bus driver for the past five years. It is difficult enough having to go to work when I am sick so that I don't fall behind on the bills, but I am also responsible for the health of my two children.

As a bus driver, my job requires me to interact with many kids every day. I would not want to get them sick when I come in to work sick. Also, it would be great to not have to work when I am feeling ill so that my full attention can be on getting the children to and from school safely.

Missing a day of work really puts me behind on the bills. I need every penny of my paycheck, so when I do miss a day of work it really puts a strain on my budget, and it is very difficult trying to make ends meet. That is why when I am sick I go to work, it is the only way not to fall behind. But when my children get sick and I cannot find a babysitter I have no other choice but to miss work.

I understand companies say they cant do this, and that businesses would leave. How is this company going to leave? Of course companies will stay here to take our kids to school. That cant be outsourced and there is money to be made.

Please, pay attention to this issue because it puts a huge strain on the lives of working mothers who already have a lot to worry about. Paid sick days would be a relief in a time of economic insecurity. Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Please support SB 63 this year.